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AR 55-121

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ARMY REGULATIONS  
No. 55-121

WAR DEPARTMENT

WASHINGTON 25, D. C., 12 November 1946

## TRANSPORTATION CORPS

TRANSPORTATION OF DEPENDENTS, HOUSEHOLD GOODS, AND PERSONAL EFFECTS UNDER THE MISSING PERSONS ACT

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1. General.—The provisions of these regulations govern the transportation of dependents, household goods, and personal effects under the Missing Persons Act approved 7 March 1942 (56 Stat. 143; 50 U. S. C. app. 1001-1015 (sec. III, WD Bul. 14, 1942), as amended by act 24 December 1942 (56 Stat. 1093; 50 U. S. C. app. 1005 (sec. II, WD Bul. 2, 1943), and as further amended by act 1 July 1944 (58 Stat. 679; 50 U. S. C. app. 1001 (sec. I, WD Bul. 14, 1944)). These regulations do not apply to the disposition of effects within the purview of AR 600-550.

2. When authorized.—a. During the period beginning 8 September 1939 and ending 12 months after the termination of the present war, or until such earlier time as the Congress by concurrent resolution or the President by proclamation may designate, the dependents and household and personal effects of any person on active duty (without regard to pay grade) who is officially reported as injured, dead, missing as the result of military or naval operations, interned in a neutral country, or captured by the enemy, including any person beleaguered or besieged by enemy forces, may be moved from any place where they may be located to the official residence of record for any such person, or, upon application by such dependents, to such other locations as may be determined by the Chief of Transportation, or by a local transportation officer as provided in paragraph 5e, by the use of either commercial or Government transportation.

b. The Chief of Transportation may authorize or approve transportation of dependents and household and personal effects to a location other than the official residence of record whenever he considers such a move to be with intent to there establish residence or to be otherwise reasonably justified.

c. Only one movement of any dependent and one movement of household and personal effects under the provisions of these regulations, will be authorized or approved in the absence of exceptional circumstances.

d. Transportation under the provisions of these regulations to or from the continental United States, its possessions, and territories will be confined to cases in which such movement is warranted by the circumstances, is permitted by immigration laws, and is not contrary to the public interest, as determined by the Chief of Transportation.

e. Where the person is officially reported as (1) injured or (2) missing in the continental limits of the United States, excluding Alaska, transportation under

\*This pamphlet supersedes section XIV, WD Circular 146, 1945.  
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the provisions of these regulations will be restricted to those cases where, in the judgment of the Chief of Transportation—

- (1) A justifying relationship exists between the circumstances connected with the injury and the necessity for or desirability of the movement.
- (2) There is evidence that the "missing" status resulted from some activity directly associated with combat operations or training incident thereto.

f. Where the person is officially reported as dead, the cause or manner of death is not material for the purposes of these regulations.

3. Definitions.—In applying the provisions of these regulations, the following definitions will govern:

a. *Person*.—The term "person" means:

(1) *Military*.—Commissioned officer, warrant officer, flight officer, enlisted person (including persons selected under the Selective Training and Service Act of 1940, as amended), member of the Army Nurse Corps (female), and dietitians, physical therapists, or technical and professional female personnel of the Medical Department, wherever serving.

(2) *Civilian*.—Civilian officers and employees of the War Department during such time as they may be assigned for duty or serving outside the continental limits of the United States or in Alaska, exclusive of part-time or intermittent employees or native labor casually hired on an hourly or per diem basis.

b. *Active duty*.—The term "active duty" means active service in the Army of the United States, including active Federal service performed by personnel of the retired and reserve components thereof, and active Federal service performed by the civilian officers and employees defined herein.

c. *Dependent*.—The term "dependent" includes a lawful wife, unmarried child under 21 years of age, a dependent mother, father, or unmarried dependent step-child or adopted child under 21 years of age, or such dependent as has been designated in official records, or an individual determined to be dependent by the Chief of Transportation.

4. *Application for transportation*.—Application for transportation authorized under the provisions of these regulations will be made to the Chief of Transportation, Attention: Chief, Commercial Traffic Service, Washington 25, D. C., either direct or through a local transportation officer. Applications received by other agencies of the War Department will be referred by such agencies direct to the Chief of Transportation. The Chief of Transportation or a local transportation officer will advise applicants of information required to be submitted in support of such application.

5. *Approval*.—a. *For dependents*.—Applications for transportation of dependents, if otherwise authorized, will be approved by the Chief of Transportation when the eligibility of such dependents is established and when, if transportation is desired to a location other than the official residence of record, reasonable justification exists for travel to such location.

b. *For household and personal effects*.—Applications for transportation of household and personal effects, if otherwise authorized, will be approved by the Chief of Transportation when it appears that the applicant is the proper custodian of such effects and when, if shipment is desired to a location other than the official residence of record, reasonable justification exists for shipment to such location.

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*c. Proof of dependency.*—Dependency may be regarded as established—

- (1) In the case of a lawful wife and unmarried children under 21, by evidence of War Department record or by statement in the application of the relationship and of the age and marital status of children.
- (2) Where there exists designation in any official record as beneficiary or dependent.
- (3) In all other cases, by reasonable evidence of dependency in the application or otherwise.

The determination of the Chief of Transportation as to the dependency status of any person will be conclusive.

*d. Verification.*—Information required by the Chief of Transportation for verification of statements made in applications for transportation, or any available evidence of record regarding status, designated beneficiaries, dependency, or residence will be furnished to the Chief of Transportation by The Adjutant General. In emergency cases occurring within the continental United States, information or evidence from the post, camp, or station concerned, or other reliable source, may be accepted by the Chief of Transportation or by a local transportation officer acting under *e* below, without verification thereof by The Adjutant General, for the purpose of acting upon such applications.

*e. Approval by local transportation officer.*—Where death occurs within the continental United States, excluding Alaska, the transportation officer of the deceased person's regular post, camp, or station may approve transportation for the wife, natural children, step children, and adopted children of such deceased person if located at or near the post, camp or station and if otherwise entitled to such transportation without action on the application by the Chief of Transportation. The determination of the local transportation officer as to dependency status under this paragraph will be conclusive.

6. *Time limit.*—Transportation under these regulations may be provided at Government expense at any time within the period specified in paragraph 2*a*.

7. *Reimbursement.*—Persons who travel or make shipment at personal expense are entitled to reimbursement therefor to the extent that transportation would have been authorized at Government expense under the provisions of these regulations. Claims for reimbursement will be submitted through the Chief of Transportation, Attention: Chief, Commercial Traffic Service, Washington 25, D. C., to the Finance Officer, U. S. Army, Washington 25, D. C.

8. *Procedures.*—Procedures for carrying out the provisions of these regulations are currently published in War Department commercial traffic bulletins. It is the desire of the War Department that action under such procedures be expedited and every assistance rendered.

[AG 500 (18 Oct 46)]

BY ORDER OF THE SECRETARY OF WAR:

OFFICIAL:  
EDWARD F. WITSELL  
Major General  
The Adjutant General

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER  
Chief of Staff

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## TRANSPORTATION CORPS

### TRANSPORTATION OF DEPENDENTS, HOUSEHOLD GOODS, AND PERSONAL EFFECTS UNDER THE MISSING PERSONS ACT

CHANGES }  
No. 1 }

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
WASHINGTON 25, D. C., 27 December 1950

AR 55-121, 12 November 1946, is changed as follows :

2. When authorized.—a. During the period \* \* \* in paragraph 5e, or by such commanders in the field as the Secretaries of the Army or Air Force, as appropriate, may from time to time designate (as limited by a. 1 below), by the use of either commercial or Government transportation.

a. 1 (Added) Final approving authority for shipments to locations other than official residence, delegated to commanders in the field, is limited to destinations within the continental United States.

b. (Superseded) Transportation of dependents and household and personal effects to a location other than the official residence of record may be authorized or approved whenever such a move is considered to be with intent to establish residence or to be otherwise reasonably justified.

\* \* \*  
[AG 500 (9 Nov 50)]

BY ORDER OF THE SECRETARY OF THE ARMY:

OFFICIAL:

EDWARD F. WITSELL  
Major General, USA  
The Adjutant General

J. LAWTON COLLINS

Chief of Staff, United States Army

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